

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Naoya Hasegawa ET AL.

Appln. No.: 10/624,931

Filed: July 22, 2003

For: SPIN-VALVE
MAGNETORESISTIVE THIN
FILM ELEMENT

Attorney Docket No: 9281-4596

Examiner: BRIAN E MILLER

Art Unit: 2627

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(I)**

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i), Applicants hereby cite the following reference(s):

No.	Date of Publication
10-177706	06/1998
10-112562	04/1998
10-154311	06/1998

Other Art
<i>Dual-element GMR/Inductive heads for gigabits density recording using CoFe spin-valves</i> , H. Yoda et al., IEEE Transactions on Magnetism, September 1996, vol. 32, no. 5, pp. 3363-3367
<i>Study of exchange-coupled bias field in Ni-Fe/Pd-Pt-Mn thin films</i> , H. Kishi et al., IEEE Transactions on Magnetism, September 1996, vol. 32, no 5, pp. 3380-3382
<i>Dual-Spin-Valve heads with antiferromagnetic PtMn layers</i> , M. Saito et al., Digests of INTERMAG '97, April 1997, HA-06
<i>Oscillations in exchange coupling and magnetoresistance in metallic superlattice structures: Co/Ru, Co/Cr and Fe/Cr</i> , S.S.P. Parkin et al., Physical Review Letters, May 1990, vol. 65, no. 19, pp. 2304-2307

Applicants are enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). Also enclosed is a copy of a Notification of Reason for Refusal dated October 12, 1999, Decision of Refusal dated February 22, 2000, Notification of Reason for Refusal dated February 7, 2006 and Decision of Refusal dated August 8, 2006 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 10-204756. Applicants respectfully request that the citation(s) be placed into the file wrapper of the application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicants are attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicants have calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

January 12, 2007
Date


Gustavo Siller, Jr. (Reg. No.32,305)

FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	10/624,931	9281-4596
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	07/22/2003	2627
APPLICANT(S): Naoya Hasegawa et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	B1	6,496,338	12/2002	Hasegawa et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	B2	10-177706	06/1998	Japan		X	
	B3	10-112562 (See U.S. Patent No. 6,496,338)	04/1998	Japan		X	
	B4	10-154311	06/1998	Japan		X	

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	B5	Dual-element GMR/Inductive heads for gigabits density recording using CoFe spin-valves, H. Yoda et al., IEEE Transactions on Magnetism, September 1996, vol. 32, no. 5, pp. 3363-3367
	B6	Study of exchange-coupled bias field in Ni-Fe/Pd-Pt-Mn thin films, H. Kishi et al., IEEE Transactions on Magnetism, September 1996, vol. 32, no. 5, pp. 3380-3382
	B7	Dual-Spin-Valve heads with antiferromagnetic PtMn layers, M. Saito et al., Digests of INTERMAG '97, April 1997, HA-06
	B8	Oscillations in exchange coupling and magnetoresistance in metallic superlattice structures: Co/Ru, Co/Cr and Fe/Cr, S.S.P. Parkin et al., Physical Review Letters, May 1990, vol. 65, no. 19, pp. 2304-2307
	B9	Copy of Notification of Reasons for Refusal dated October 12, 1999 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 10-204756
	B10	Copy of Decision to Grant Patent dated February 22, 2000 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 10-204756
	B11	Notification of Reasons for Refusal dated February 7, 2006 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 10-204756
	B12	Decision of Refusal dated August 8, 2006 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 10-204756

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.